

## PREMIERS FEAR THIS RUN

Leygues, Fearing Cabinet Crisis, Sought Earlier Conference Than Jan. 19.

## FRICTION HIGHER UP

Difference With President Millerand Over Scope of Latter's Authority.

## CHAMBER TO TAKE LEAD

Solution of German, Russian and Greek Problems Requires Speedy Action.

By LAURENCE HILLS.  
Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
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New York Herald Bureau, Jan. 5.

It was officially announced this afternoon that Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain had suggested that the allied Premiers meet in Paris on January 19 to consider the German disarmament and reparations questions and the Greek situation and that France had accepted the suggestion.

At the same time it was said in well informed circles that the French Government would have liked to have had the meeting of the Premiers fixed for an earlier date. It had been reported that it was not improbable that Premier Leygues would send another note to London suggesting that the allied Premiers meet there not later than next week, owing to the impending danger of a French Cabinet crisis.

**Difference With President.**  
For some time it has been generally understood here that friction was developing between President Millerand and Premier Leygues because of the latter's failure to follow the President's platform that Ministerial actions be directed from the Elysee Palace rather than by the individual departments. In fact, so strained has become this situation, that in some well informed quarters Premier Leygues was said to have decided to hand in the resignation of the entire Cabinet next week if he was unable to get together with Premier Lloyd George on the German disarmament and Greek problems.

In this connection it is considered significant that Premier Leygues told one of his friends when Parliament met Tuesday that he would take advantage of the opportunity to express his wishes definitely on the opening day, as Maurice Raynaud intends to interpellate Premier Leygues as soon as the Chamber resumes its sittings. It is known here that Premier Lloyd George is anxious to suggest a new policy regarding the handling of the German and Greek questions, but at the same time he is desirous of dealing with Premier Leygues until the latter's continuance as head of the French Government is either assured or the position of his Cabinet is made plain.

## Differ on Greece and Turkey.

In French circles there is the greatest divergence of opinion over the Greek problem and the treaty of Sevres, which Great Britain intends to ratify if possible next week. Anglo-French views on the Russian and German dangers have been considerably during the past few weeks, and it is believed here that Premier Lloyd George is ready to suggest that if France leaves the handling of the Turkish question to Great Britain the latter will give France a free hand in dealing as she thinks wise regarding German disarmament, and will even be willing to effect a comprehensive rapprochement with Germany, which French diplomatists point out the urgency of some kind of a solution of all three of these problems.

It is also believed that it appears to be pushing as hard as she formerly did for occupation of the Ruhr district, leaving the initiation of any such action to the Allied Council. However, she has refused to accept the German plan of the Ruhr district, which she has refused to accept the German plan of the Ruhr district, which she has refused to accept the German plan of the Ruhr district.

## WASHINGTON MORE

## LENIENT TO GERMANY

Does Not Agree With France in Strict Treaty View.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
New York Herald Bureau, Jan. 5.  
Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.

Any possible effort on the part of France to rewrite the Versailles treaty to the extent of occupying the Ruhr Valley and holding the Rhine provinces of Germany will meet with disapproval of the present Administration. Differences between American and French policy on the question of the French attitude toward Germany, which resulted at one time in a change of German policy by President Wilson against the French Government, is becoming accentuated by the French insistence that Germany live up to the terms of the Versailles pact without any amendments.

The recent statement of Andre Tardieu that France would be justified in holding the Rhine provinces indefinitely in case the United States refused to ratify the Versailles pact is not agreed to by the Wilson Administration. The State Department is carrying out a complete investigation of its own to determine the truth of the French statement that Germany is violating certain clauses of the Versailles pact and is failing to do things required of her in other clauses.

There are also indications of increasing leniency on the part of the present Administration toward Germany in its fulfillment of the terms of the treaty of Versailles. This American policy, so far as it can be deduced, is to give Germany the benefit of the doubt and to ask enforcement only of those terms which are demonstrably susceptible of enforcement.

## SOLDIERS FOIL AMBUSCADE IN IRELAND BY SINN FEIN

Sixteen of Waylaying Party Killed, All Others Captured With Guns and Ammunition in Encounter in County Cork—Troops Have No Losses.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Sixteen civilian members of a party that waylaid a detachment of troops at Meelin, northwest County Cork, Ireland, were killed by the soldiers attacked, and the remainder of the ambushing party were captured with all their guns and ammunition, says a Dublin despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company to-day. This is the first time it is declared, that an ambush on a large scale has been effectively beaten.

An official despatch says: "The attackers are believed to have suffered heavy casualties, and no members of the crown forces were injured."

The official report also states that the attacking party were seen to fire from houses, and a news despatch to the Central News says that five houses in Meelin were destroyed to-day by a military order.

The ambush, according to an Evening

News despatch from Cork, occurred in a secluded roadway outside the village of Meelin. Three military lorries, says the account, were coming from Mallow when a bomb was thrown at the lead vehicle. The bomb missed its mark. Revolver fire was then opened on the lorries, which halted while the troops poured rifle fire into both sides of the road.

Aided by a smoke screen, continues the account, the troops made a sortie and rounded up all the attacking party, killing sixteen of them and capturing the remainder with all their guns, rifles and ammunition.

Cork, Jan. 5.—The Rev. Brother Finbar Darcy, abbot of the Twynford Abbey Nursing Home in London, was shot dead in the course of a military raid on the Imperial Hotel here early this morning. He was attempting to escape through a window. The raiders arrested four of the guests.

## KING CONSTANTINE OPENS PARLIAMENT

Dwells on Necessity of Raising Money to Keep Army at Smyrna.

By the Associated Press.  
ATHENS, Jan. 5.—King Constantine delivered his message to Parliament to-day, reading it in a halting manner. The ceremony was unusually solemn. Beside him stood Queen Sophie, and in a box above were the Princesses, attired in mourning.

The meeting of the Assembly was made a gala occasion. It was the first time that the King and his family had appeared publicly since their arrival. The Archbishop arrived at 10:50 and a benediction was pronounced on the new constitutional Assembly. The Ministers took seats with Premier Rallis on the speaker's platform near the throne, which was the only garish decoration in the chamber.

Both the King, who was in a Marshal's uniform, and the Queen looked ill and worn. The Queen's heavy expression deepened when Constantine said that the only consolation in the death of Alexander was the wonderful manifestation of the people. There was much cheering before and after the message. Among the points in the King's speech were the necessity of raising money to keep the army at Smyrna until the Turkish question is settled, maintenance of the Greek position in the Aegean, execution of the Sevres treaty and internal harmony.

A suggestion that former Premier Venizelos, newly returned from his exile in Greece in the event of his losing the recent elections in Greece was rejected by him as "not Hellenic," says M. Lambraki, chief editor of the newspaper. He would have broached the plan to the then Premier. Discussing this development, the editor says:

"It would appear from another Venizelist editor's statement that the plan of M. Venizelos after the elections was to create the new state of Pontus, on the Black Sea, by which Constantinople would be reached by two Greek provinces and would eventually fall into the hands of the greater. It is a fact that this ambitious plan was being laid last August, on the eve of the Greek landing of an attack against Ankara."

## JAPANESE OPPOSE BRITISH ALLIANCE

Could Reach American Agreement Easier Without It.

By the Associated Press.  
TOKYO, Jan. 5.—The newspapers continue the disarmament discussion, but the Japanese attitude toward the Anglo-American alliance plays a prominent part.

The Osaka Asahi Shimbun advocates the abolition of this alliance as a means of reaching an agreement with the United States. It argues that England's post-war policy is directed toward an understanding with America, England no longer having need of Japan as an ally, pro-Americanism becoming the basis of her policy. The United States may not reciprocate, the newspaper comments, but nevertheless Japan, it says, should not allow the Anglo-American alliance to become a permanent barrier to her policy. If Japan and England desire to restrict armaments, it argues, it is essential that they eliminate the alliance, which has the effect of arousing American suspicion and it advises the Foreign Office to reconsider its practice of pivoting its policy on that alliance.

"Let us abolish the alliance," it adds, "and then talk to America face to face, with open minds."

The Jiji Shimbun urges the reduction of the Japanese army by half, but it claims that the Government is unwilling to do so. It argues that the reduction of eight battle ships and eight cruisers by 1925 was fixed years ago and is outside the "naval race."

The Chugai Shogyo Shimbun, a commercial organ, takes issue with the United States may not at present be on particularly good terms this condition will not be lasting and that cooperation between the two Powers will follow.

## AGREEMENT NEAR ON JAPANESE ISSUE

Envoys Resume Negotiations on Property Rights.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Ambassadors Morris and Shidehara, charged with laying the bases for settlement of issues between America and Japan growing out of California anti-Japanese laws, resumed their conferences to-day after a few days' intermission with the hope that the project of a treaty, which was recently defined for submission to the two governments.

In its present form, it was learned, the agreement does not deal with the subject of civil rights. No attempt has been made to do more than protect the lawful rights of the Japanese already in America and prevent discrimination against them in the enjoyment of property rights.

It is stated that there has been an effort to secure civil rights for the Japanese which would carry the right of suffrage and other privileges. This is regarded by the Japanese as an entirely separate proposition, it was added, and not connected with the negotiations now under way relative to a treaty.

## NO DISARMING UNTIL ALL GO, PARIS VIEW

France Not Vitrally Affected by Dispute of Japan and America.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
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New York Herald Bureau, Jan. 5.

Continued discussions on the question of naval disarmament to which the American and British newspapers have been devoting much space the last few weeks are beginning to arouse comment in naval circles here, but so far the French Government has not indulged in official discussion as to whether France shall participate in the suggested plan.

First—The elections will not be held until the necessity for martial law in Ireland has passed.

Second—It is recognized that no formal treaty is possible in view of the unquestionable fact that neither violent Sinn Feiners nor violent Black and Tans can be restrained from taking vengeance when the occasion offers.

Third—It is confidently expected in Downing Street that the Dail Eireann will meet in the immediate future. It is more than hoped that the Downing Street believes that De Valera will be present at that meeting.

Fourth—When the meeting is held the Dail Eireann will be faced by the necessity of continuing the fight, which Downing Street, backed by the entire force of the British Empire, believes to be hopeless, especially since the Sinn Feiners have been shown of all hope of outside support, particularly from the United States, according to De Valera's own admission.

It is recognized as possible—Downing Street reckons almost anything is possible in dealing with Ireland, and the policy of reprisals and the determined policy of martial law will induce the Dail Eireann to continue the bitter struggle for independence or nothing.

It is pointed out that any new construction to be undertaken by France in the next few years would be along the lines of small submarines, light marines and seaplanes, which would be distinctly defensive. Big gunned ships, however, will be kept in good repair in order that they may be needed to join any offensive alliance.

Even if all the proposed replacements were effected in five years, and if the United States, which would be completely shut down their navy yards completely they would still have navies four times as great as either France or Italy. Great Britain, it is pointed out, has been made for disarmament cannot be carried out until all nations simultaneously do so.

## GERMANY DELIVERS ALL COAL PROMISED

Action Causes French to Cancel U. S. Contracts.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—France has a surplus of coal large enough to supply all her needs for the next six months, it was stated to-day by both governmental and commercial officials. Contracts with American coal companies for more than \$100,000,000 worth of coal have been cancelled, while the price of American coal delivered at French ports has fallen from \$32 a ton to \$12.50 a ton within the last two months. Of the American contracts, officials think that about half will be renewed at a price of from \$14 to \$15 per ton.

It has been suggested that France will agree to a temporary reduction in the amount of coal to be delivered under the impending renewal of the Spa agreement. The number in which Germany has lived up to the Spa coal agreement by delivering virtually all the coal demanded came as a big surprise to the French Government, which had expected Germany would not fulfil the terms France encouraged her import firms to purchase all the coal they could, while the Government itself bought heavily in the United States and England.

In consequence of this there are at the present time from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 tons of coal in France.

French coal importers said the situation was due to three elements—German fulfillment of the Spa agreement, nationwide curtailment of industry, due to depression, and the unusual spring-like weather. For four or six months the importation of coal from the United States will virtually be discontinued.

The English coal, which was sold at Havre within the last week, was sold at auction for 70 francs a ton, less than sufficient to pay the freight. English coal is now offered at 70 shillings, a decrease of more than 25 per cent.

Italy as Peacemaker to Britain and France View of Latter on German Disarmament Criticized.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Italian newspapers comment at considerable length on the forthcoming meeting of the Supreme Council at Paris, the Foreign despatch to the London Times, and forecast that Italy will have to play the role of peacemaker between Great Britain and France, especially in the question of German disarmament and the attitude of the Allies toward Greece.

With regard to the former question, says the correspondent, undoubtedly the French policy is mediating with Frank criticism in the Italian press.

## IRISH GOVERNMENT DEPENDS ON ACTS OF THE SINN FEIN

Government Goes Ahead With Plans for Choosing Two Parliaments.

## CONFIDENCE IS FELT

Results of Elections in U. S. Encouraging to Downing Street.

## SINN FEIN ON RUN

Conditions Reversed Since August, Says Man Close to Cabinet.

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There is no further talk of Irish negotiations, but the hope for Irish peace is stronger than ever. However, the correspondent for THE NEW YORK HERALD has learned from an authoritative source that the British Empire, without Eamonn De Valera, "President" of the Irish Republic, must make its own choice. It must choose between a continuance of the hope for Irish peace and the hope for Irish independence.

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Germany delivers all coal promised. Action causes French to cancel U. S. contracts.

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## Sinn Fein Raiders Seize Tax Collections

DUBLIN, Jan. 5.—Armed men to-day made raids on the houses of rate collectors who had obeyed the orders of the local Government board by depositing their collections in a bank to their own credit instead of to that of Councils which have acknowledged the Dail Eireann. The raiders compelled the collectors to sign checks payable to bearer, transferring the money collected. Members of the raiding party then remained on guard while their colleagues went to the bank and cashed the checks. The money thus obtained will be turned over to the Sinn Fein County Council and other local bodies concerned.

## INSPECTOR ORDERS CORK MAYOR OUT

Newport News Official Wants Him Excluded, Norfolk Would Admit Him.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 5.—Sympathy for the cause he represents and admiration for the daring he displayed in defying the British authorities and crossing the ocean as a stowaway on board the West Cannon brought to Daniel O'Callaghan, Lord Mayor of Cork, smiles and hand-claps from many persons to-day. Despite the fact that H. E. Parker, an immigration inspector of Newport News, had ruled that the Lord Mayor would have to be deported because he landed in America without a passport, the visitor appeared on the streets near the hotel where he is quartered accompanied by Peter J. MacSwiney, who crossed the ocean with him, and a guard from the immigration office.

The unique spectacle of one immigration inspector appealing the ruling of another inspector was presented in the case and which probably will result in the Lord Mayor being given his liberty to-morrow.

E. B. Schmucker, district immigration inspector, after being advised of the decision rendered by Inspector Parker, communicated with the State Department and filed notice of appeal. He virtually recommended that O'Callaghan be permitted to remain in America as an immigrant. The only law the Lord Mayor violated, according to Mr. Schmucker, was his failure to secure a passport. Other immigrants have landed in America without passports and the immigration inspector held that in this case the law could be waived.

A decision from the State Department is expected by to-morrow noon. In the meantime Lord Mayor O'Callaghan and Peter MacSwiney are quartered in the Warwick Hotel.

Judge Joseph T. Lawless of Norfolk, a prominent lawyer and former judge of the Hastings court of Norfolk county, was in consultation with the Lord Mayor to-day. He was asked to appear in court to prevent his client from being sent back to Ireland until he had appeared before the committee of one hundred and twenty conditions existing in the Emerald Isle.

Reports that sympathizers or agents of the British Government might endeavor to get the Lord Mayor on board a ship in Hampton Roads were heard to-day. There appeared to be no foundation for the reports, but it helped to keep the Lord Mayor on his toes.

Members of the crew of the West Cannon laughed when newspaper men endeavored to get them to say whether the report was true or false. Capt. McGovern, who commands the West Cannon, said he did not see Mr. O'Callaghan because he was generally believed, however, that the Lord Mayor did board the ship.

Members of the West Cannon's crew declared the Lord Mayor was a good fellow, and they would say anything they thought of more than his being on board. He generally believed, however, that the Lord Mayor did board the ship.

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## GAUGE IN SALE OF THEATRE TICKETS

Probe by Collector of Internal Revenue to Lead to Prosecutions.

## BROKERS VIOLATE LAW

Price Paid and Fail to Make Return.

## MANY SPECULATORS CONCEAL

Plans Made to Break Up Illegal Traffic—Heavy Penalties Can Be Imposed.

SOME BOX OFFICES HELP

Many of the speculators who have been subjecting the public to the worst gouging in the sale of theatre tickets have at the same time been cheating the Government and violating the law by making false tax returns and pocketing a large part of the money which should be paid into the United States Treasury.

William H. Edwards, Collector of Internal Revenue, says he has established this fact by means of an investigation begun in November, and that the evidence, warranting prosecution and the collection of heavy penalties and fines is about ready to be turned over to the Department of Justice.

"But I wish to have it understood," Mr. Edwards said last night, "that the men who are doing the crooked work are the gougers, the speculators who charge \$5, \$8, \$10 or any other price they can get for a theatre ticket, and that the long established agencies such as McBride's and Tyson's are honorable exceptions. The latter agencies really sell tickets at an advance of only fifty cents over the box office price, as they say they do. Their books are carefully kept, and their tax returns are honest."

"Some of the agencies and individuals to whom I refer as gypers have made no income tax return at all. Some of them swear that they never sold a ticket at a premium of more than fifty cents, although we have tickets, proving that the premium was all the way from \$2 to \$10."

"I'd like to add that nothing I have tried to do has been received more favorably by the public than the announcement a little while ago that the investigation was under way. No end of people have written to me about it."

In the inquiry Collector Edwards's men also have verified a rumor of long standing. It is established as a fact that the box office men of a good many theatres are in the habit of receiving annual presents from the outside ticket brokers.

For a week in the early part of November, Mr. Edwards required all theatres to send to the Custom House the parts of the tickets which they retain for the box office. Later, certain members of the Internal Revenue staff, in the guise of simple youth with a yearning to see plays, asked tickets from speculator to speculator, making purchases. A study of the cancelled tickets from the theatres, and the unused tickets bought from the speculators, disclosed a number of interesting facts.

In the first place, certain speculators stamp the prices on the tickets in such a way as conceal from the Government the amount of the advance. In the direct violation of the law, The Revenue Act of 1918 says that whenever a ticket is sold at other than its established price, the ticket must be stamped or printed or written on the back thereof the name of the vendor, the actual sale price, the admission tax paid and the total. And it is